

who are concerned about our young people and those volunteers who do this so that money from school systems do not have to be put into this program. And as I understand it, Nebraska is the only state that has their program run by Optimist entirely and does not have tax funds put into the program. But particularly I want to thank the students and the program and the way that it's run, the involvement of those students who are not the A and the B students, but the involvement of all of the students in a learning experience with their peers and a positive experience with their teachers outside of the classroom situation is to be encouraged. And I certainly salute not only the winners, but everyone who participated who I believe is a true winner. Thank you very much.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, after listening to what Senator Pirsch said, all I can add is that the nice thing about this activity is that it honors children for things that are definitely not hereditary.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. There are no other lights on. Next resolution, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next resolution, 324 by Senator Crosby, found on page 971 of the Journal.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. It's just a real pleasure today to bring this resolution for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Marching Band. They received the Sudler award, which is an equivalent of a national title for any other activity, and it doesn't bring any money, but it's a real top honor. Jay Kloecker, who is Director of the UNL Band Department, says it's a wonderful award for the band. Marching band business is not about winning trophies. It's about being good. Along...this is the John Phillips Sousa Foundation in Chicago that sponsors this competition and the winners are chosen by a vote of all NCAA marching band directors, and included in past recipients are like Northwestern University, Kansas University, Florida A & M, and others. The band is going to go to Dublin for the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and they have